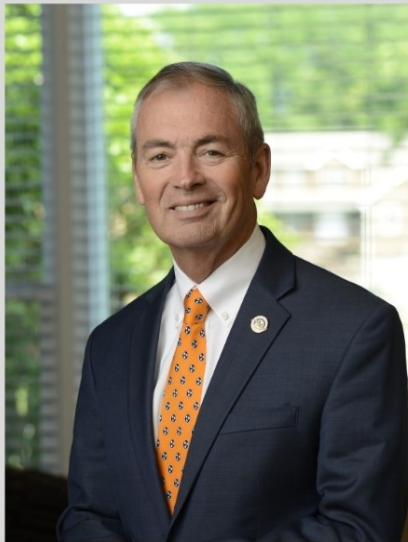




SEPT 2021 | VOL 11 ISSUE 9

THE COUNTY CONNECTION

A Monthly Newsletter from Mayor Randall Hutto
Mt. Juliet | Lebanon | Watertown



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A Word from Mayor Hutto...

The devastation caused by Hurricanes Ida and Henri is difficult to watch. Our hearts break for the families that have lost loved ones, as well as their homes and sources of income. Here in Wilson County, we know all too well that storms are truly nondiscriminatory and can strike at a moments notice. That is why, among other reasons, public safety has remained one of my top priorities since I assumed the role of County Mayor.

Our county is blessed with many men and women who are active in public safety and are dedicated to serving our citizens. Our swift recovery from the March 3, 2020, tornadoes would not have been possible without the immediate actions of our first responders, service members and local law enforcement. The many volunteers and charitable groups in our area contributed immensely as well, and many of them are working to assist in Humphrey County's recovery efforts today.

Please join me in praying for the many families and individuals impacted by the recent storms. Our hearts are with the citizens of Waverly and Humphrey County, as well as with the people of Louisiana, and we pray for the many volunteers in our area who are traveling to aid in the relief efforts.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randall Hutto".

Commissioner Spotlight: Jerry McFarland District 5



Contact INFORMATION

5335 Coles Ferry Pike
Lebanon, TN 37087
+1 (615) 547-4041
+1 (615) 330-8474

Wilson County LANDFILL

MONDAY-FRIDAY
7:00AM-3:00PM

SATURDAYS
8:00AM-NOON

ALL LOADS MUST BE CHECKED INTO THE
SCALE HOUSE BY 2:30 P.M.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS
TO 615.449.6684

**SAVE
THE
DATE**  **10.05.21**
SERVING SUMNER, WILSON & ROBERTSON COUNTIES

HomeSafe, Inc. would be honored to have you attend the 2021 Nat'l Domestic Violence Awareness Event on October 5th at 5:15PM.

Wilson County Courthouse Steps
228 E. Main Street
Lebanon, TN 37087

Please join us in demonstrating to our community that we are all committed to ending this public health crisis. We look forward to seeing you there!

*a message from the Staff of HomeSafe of Sumner,
Wilson & Robertson Counties*

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE: 615-452-4315
ESPAÑOL: 615-969-3260 | SEXUAL ASSAULT: 615-454-0373



WILSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICES WILL BE
CLOSED ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH IN OBSERVANCE
OF LABOR DAY. OFFICES WILL RETURN TO THEIR USUAL
SCHEDULES ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH.

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

There's been many transformations within the walls of the Mayor's Office over the years, but through it all we've been blessed with a great team. Each team member of my office cares about our citizens and our co-workers. We're blessed to have genuinely good people working here in our office every day.

Many of you already know that Sara Davenport recently made a big change in her life. "S" as we call her, accepted a bookkeeping position at Walter J. Baird Elementary School. This change will allow her to be nearer to her sons, Owen and Collin, who are both in second grade. Sara's ability to multitask while smoothly running our office is consistent with her skills as a mother of two seven-year-olds. Over the past six and a half years, Sara gave our office and everyone in it a level of care and professionalism that we are sincerely grateful for. Sara will be truly missed here in our office, and we are thankful for her achievements that made our office shine. So for now we say goodbye, but we know that our loss is somebody else's gain. We'll miss seeing you everyday, Sara. Congratulations as you begin your new adventure!



Wishing you much joy and happiness as you begin this new chapter in your life!



September's unofficial

Holidays

September 8

International Literacy Day

September 12

Grandparent's Day

September 13

Uncle Sam Day

September 19

Wife Appreciation Day

National Courtesy Month

Suicide Prevention

Awareness Month

EMISSIONS TESTING TO END IN FIVE TN COUNTIES

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) announced today that vehicle emissions testing in five Tennessee counties will end on Jan. 14, 2022 now that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved a revision to the state's air quality plan.

EPA's approval, which was published in the Federal Register on Aug. 17, 2021 and becomes effective on Sept. 16, 2021, means vehicle emissions testing will end on Jan. 14, 2022 in five counties – Hamilton, Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson and Wilson. Davidson County has chosen to continue its testing program.

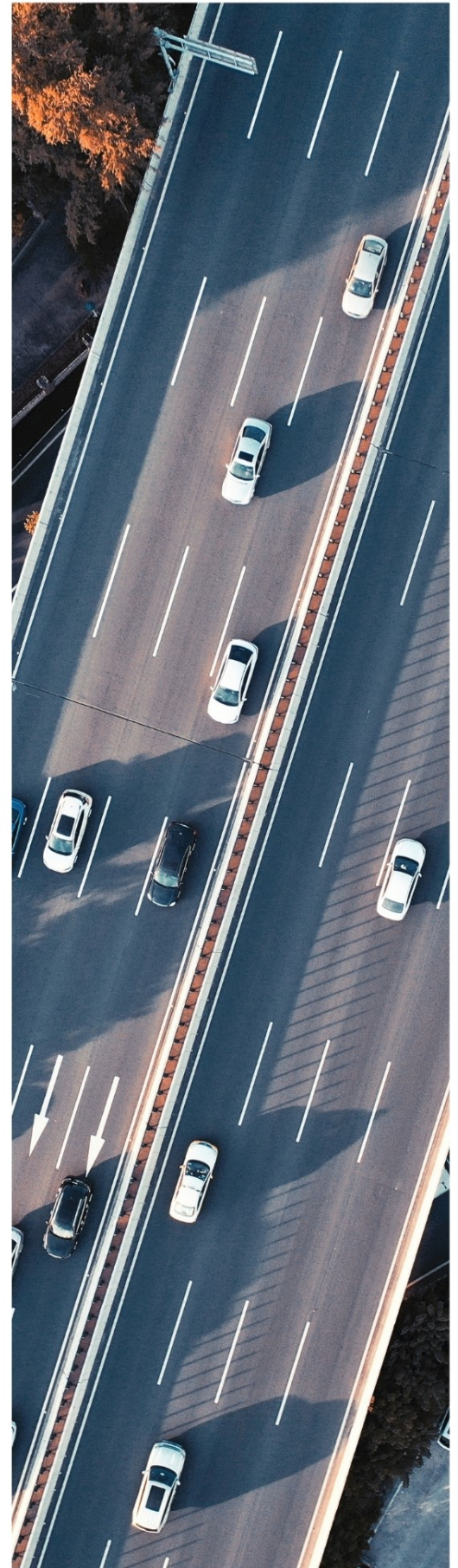
The Tennessee General Assembly passed a bill in 2018 that eliminated vehicle emissions testing in the state 120 calendar days following EPA approval. In February 2020, the state submitted to EPA its revision to the state's air quality plan requesting removal of the vehicle emissions testing program.

EPA determined that the removal of vehicle emissions testing in Tennessee is consistent with the federal Clean Air Act and all applicable regulations. EPA's technical analysis concludes that after removal of vehicle emissions testing, Hamilton County and the Middle Tennessee area will continue to comply with all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Since the NAAQS are set to protect public health and welfare, and EPA's technical analysis shows that the areas will continue to comply with all NAAQS, public health and welfare will continue to be protected once vehicle emissions testing is removed from Tennessee's air quality plan.

The approval becomes effective on Sept. 16, 2021, 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. Tennessee law states the elimination of vehicle emissions testing is effective 120 days following EPA's approval. Therefore, the effective end date of the program is Jan. 14, 2022. In counties where vehicle emissions testing is ending, persons registering their vehicles on or before Jan. 13, 2022 will still be required to get the vehicle emissions test. Residents in those counties who register after Jan. 13, 2022 will not have to undergo vehicle emissions testing.

Tennessee law provides an option for local agencies with their own air pollution control program to continue vehicle emissions testing. Davidson County opted to continue vehicle emissions testing.

Those who have questions regarding the elimination of vehicle emissions testing may visit the TDEC website.



WILSON COUNTY / TN STATE FAIR GRAND OPENING

The Wilson County / Tennessee State Fair kicked off with a grand opening. Mayors Randall Hutto (Wilson County), James Maness (Mt. Juliet), Mike Jennings (Watertown) and Rick Bell (Lebanon) were in attendance, as well as Governor Lee and First Lady Maria. The theme of the fair was 'Honoring our Hometown Heroes', and the fair committee planned just that with an honorary parade that was held during the grand opening ceremonies. Countless local heroes participated in the parade. Mayor Hutto is pictured below with our city mayors, as well as Governor Lee and the First Lady after the event (photos courtesy of Joshua Kelly, JLK PHOTOGRAPHY). The parade was a great way to honor those who serve us.

Thank you to all of our first responders, medical personnel, service members and the many volunteer organizations that are made up of local heroes! We are so grateful for your dedication to our safety!



Support Wilson Rides Inc.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

[amazonsmile](https://smile.amazon.com)

If you would like to give a monetary donation to aid flood survivors in Humphrey County, donations can be made via:

- **American Red Cross**
<https://www.redcross.org/donate/donation.html/>
- **The Community Foundation of Middle TN**
<https://www.cfmt.org/>
- **Nashville Community Resource Center**
<https://crcnashville.org/>
- **Salvation Army**
<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/>



Important Updates from TDOT

I-40 from MM 225.50 - 226.50. Bridge widening on SR 171 over I-40. Thurs 8/26 thru Wed 9/1 8PM-5AM. I-40 EB and WB will have intermittent lane closures for bridge widening activities.

I-40 from MM 232.00 - 236.00. The grading, drainage, construction of I-beam bridge, retaining walls, and paving on I-40 from east of SR-109 to east of I-840. Thurs 8/26 thru Wed 9/1 8PM-5AM. There will be alternating lane closures for paving activities.

SR 109 from LM 7.56 - 15.04. The reconstruction on SR 109 from North of US 70 (SR 24) to South of the Cumberland River. Thurs 8/26 thru Wed 9/1 9AM-3:30PM. There will be periodic flagging operations along SR 109 for construction activities.

US 70 from LM 14.50. Construction of a pedestrian facility. Thurs 8/26 thru Wed 9/1 8AM-3:30PM. US-70 near W Baddour Pkwy will have intermittent lane closures for utility relocation and sidewalk construction.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation will halt all lane closure activity on interstates and state highways for the Labor Day holiday travel period. Construction crews will stop all lane closure activity at noon on Friday, September 3rd, until 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 7th. This will provide maximum roadway capacity for motorists traveling during the busy Labor Day holiday.

As always, drivers are reminded to use all motorist information tools wisely and *Know Before You Go!* by checking travel conditions before leaving for your destination. Drivers should never text, tweet, or talk on a cell phone while behind the wheel.



WILSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT RELOCATES COVID-19 VACCINATION & TESTING LOCATION; FDA APPROVES PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINE FOR AGES 16+

The Wilson County Health Department recently announced the relocation of their COVID-19 testing and vaccination site to the College Hills Church of Christ. The College Hills Church of Christ is located at 1401 Leeville Pike, Lebanon TN 37090.

The health department will administer COVID-19 tests on Monday-Friday from 8:30a.m. - 10:30a.m. Self-tests will be available Monday-Friday from 8:30a.m. - 4:00p.m.

COVID-19 vaccinations will take place at the College Hills Church of Christ as well from 12:30p.m. - 4:00p.m. on Mondays - Fridays.

Last month, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued full authorization of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for individuals age 16 and up. The vaccine remains under emergency use authorization (EUA) for those age 12-15 years and for the administration of the third dose option for individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.

The full licensed approval from the FDA is given after more than 9 months of data review and continued case study. The Pfizer vaccine has been available in Tennessee since December 2020 with approximately 3.4 million Pfizer doses administered to date.

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) wants to remind Tennesseans the COVID-19 vaccines are our best defense in preventing the continued spread of the virus. Vaccination rates across the state have increased over the last month as the state experiences a surge in COVID-19 cases due to the highly contagious Delta variant. In particular, younger Tennesseans are choosing to receive the vaccine with the highest rate of increases in the 12-15 age group and the 16-20 age group.

Additional guidance from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is expected later this week, and the department encourages providers to review that guidance once released. TDH will adhere to ACIP guidance regarding the administration of the vaccine. In addition, we are taking the necessary steps at our county health departments in anticipation of continued demand.

Visit www.Vaccines.gov to find a vaccine site offering the Pfizer vaccine. In addition, local health departments across the state will be administering the COVID-19 vaccine with no appointment necessary.

Individuals seeking more information on the COVID-19 vaccines can visit covid19.tn.gov or www.vaccines.gov to schedule an appointment with a local vaccine provider.

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee. Learn more about TDH services and programs at www.tn.gov/health.

TDH ANNOUNCES 3RD COVID-19 VACCINE DOSE FOR IMMUNOCOMPROMISED INDIVIDUALS

The Tennessee Department of Health is acting upon recent guidance from the FDA and the CDC regarding an additional dose of the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine for moderately and severely immunocompromised individuals.

On August 13, 2021, the CDC accepted ACIP recommendations for an additional dose of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. This includes approval for a third dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (approved for individuals age 12 years and above) and the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine (approved for individuals age 18 years and above). The recommendation from the CDC does not include approval for an additional dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Tennesseans should talk with their health care provider about their medical condition, and whether getting an additional dose is appropriate for them.

Based on the recommendations from the FDA and CDC, moderately and severely immunocompromised individuals, are defined as:

- Receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

A notification has been sent to all Tennessee providers with information on these recommendations. Providers are encouraged to begin offering the additional dose option to eligible patients. Visit www.vaccines.gov to find a vaccine site offering the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. Patients do not need to prove their diagnosis to be eligible for an additional vaccine dose.

Local health departments across the state will be administering the additional dose option with no appointment necessary.

Individuals seeking more information on the COVID-19 vaccines can visit covid19.tn.gov or www.vaccines.gov to schedule an appointment with a local vaccine provider.

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee. Learn more about TDH services and programs at www.tn.gov/health.

WCTV is proud to announce D.T. McCall & Sons will once again sponsor encore presentations of the Lebanon High School's home football games produced by Blue Devil Broadcasting.

D.T. McCall & Sons will also sponsor the encore presentations of the Coaches' Night Out talk show hosted by Tommy Bryan, voice of the LHS Blue Devils.

The games will air weekends at noon and the talk show will air Thursdays at 8:30p.m. & weekends at 10:30a.m.



Upcoming Home Games:

September 17 vs Coffee County
October 21 vs Shelbyville Central
October 8 vs Mt. Juliet
October 22 vs Gallatin



The Wilson County/Tennessee State Fair held a variety of celebrations and tributes, one of which was our state's 225th Birthday. The theme of the birthday celebration, so to speak, was titled "Tennessee's Untold Stories." Fairgoers had the opportunity to read and listen to many of our state's untold stories—and several were from our area in specific. In order to honor Tennessee and its icons, four Paint WilCo artists came together to represent the "volunteer state" by creating a unified mural. The mural showcased well-known icons (i.e. Dolly, Opry, Graceland) and not so well-known icons (lighting bugs, tulip poplar) which encouraged fairgoers to learn more about Tennessee. In many ways, this mural was a birthday gift to the state of Tennessee!

After the fair, the mural was relocated to its permanent home at The Mill. Now, the mural will be used for public events, as well as a display for part of the county mural tour. If you haven't seen the mural yet, be sure to look for it the next time you're in town! For now, here's a photo of Tennessee's 225th birthday gift!



NEW CLERK'S OFFICE LOCATION

A ribbon cutting was held on August 11th for the new Wilson County Clerk's office location on the west side of the county. Located at 10905 Lebanon Road Mount Juliet, TN 37122, the new Clerk's office was originally the old Green Hill's Women's Club. The next time you're running errands in Mt. Juliet, go by to see the new Clerk's office location!



Photo courtesy of the Wilson County Clerk's Facebook Page

WILSON COUNTY SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE CAMPAIGN

The Wilson County Specialty License Plate is a great way to support Wilson County, Tennessee. Specialty license plates are now available for pre-order for Tennessee drivers. Tennessee state law requires a minimum of 1,000 pre-orders by June 30, 2022 before the plates to go into production. So, now is the time to order yours! See page 11 for details on how to register.



WILCO POW WOW COMING SOON!

**Saturday & Sunday
September 25-26, 2021**

James E. Ward Agricultural Center
945 E. Baddour Pkwy - Lebanon, TN

- Competition Pow Wow
 - Native American Food, Arts & Crafts, Music
 - Intertribal Dancing
- All Dancers Welcome**

For more information call Cindy Yahola 615-443-1537

Middle Tennessee Pow Wow, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) chartered in the State of Tennessee.



Scan this QR code to visit us on Facebook
CELEBRATE SEPTEMBER 2021
American Indian Heritage Month
for the State of Tennessee

MAYOR HUTTO PROCLAIMS SEPTEMBER AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

On August 24, 2021, Mayor Hutto signed a proclamation which proclaims September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Wilson County, Tennessee. Suicide is one of the most disruptive and tragic events a family and a community can experience, with more than 1100 lives lost in Tennessee each year and an estimated 25 attempted suicides for each suicide death. Suicide is the 9th-leading cause of all deaths in Tennessee, the second-leading cause of death among youth ages of 10 to 14 as well as young adults ages 25-34 and the third leading cause for children ages 15-24. More than three lives a day are lost to suicide in Tennessee, which means we lose 21 Tennesseans each week and 97 people per month. Tennessee veterans, active-duty military, and National Guardsmen face a disproportionate risk as compared to the general population, with more dying from suicide than combat. Public awareness of this tragic problem is the key to preventing further suffering and loss of life; and the risk for human self-destruction can be reduced through awareness, education and treatment as the highest risk for suicide is among the survivors of those who died by suicide or those who have attempted suicide. The Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network is a grassroots collaboration of Tennesseans and organizations working to eliminate the stigma of suicide, educate the community about the warning signs of suicide, and ultimately reduce the rate of suicide in our state. We encourage all Tennesseans to take the time to inquire as to the wellbeing of their family, friends, and to genuinely convey their appreciation for their existence by any gesture they deem appropriate. A simple phone call, message, handshake, or hug can go a long way towards helping someone realize that suicide is not the answer. Mayor Hutto urges all citizens to work to prevent suicide and to raise awareness and tolerance around all people affected by this tragedy.



Pictured: Wilson County Mayor, Randall Hutto and Brenda Harper



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 10

9 A.M. - NOON
BASIC DIGITAL LITERACY
NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCH IN
HERMITAGE

SEPTEMBER 29

9 AM - NOON
BASIC DIGITAL LITERACY CLASS
AMERICAN JOB CENTER IN LEBANON

EVERY MONDAY

1 - 1:30 P.M.
EXPLORE JOBS ONLINE (VIRTUAL)
2 - 3:15 P.M.
APPLYING FOR WORK (VIRTUAL)

EVERY WEDNESDAY

9 - 9:30 A.M.
RESUME WRITING (VIRTUAL)
10 - 11:15 A.M.
PREPARING FOR SUCCESS AT WORK (VIRTUAL)

EVERY THURSDAY

1 - 1:30 P.M.
RESUME WRITING (VIRTUAL)
2 - 3:15 P.M.
INTERVIEWING FOR WORK (VIRTUAL)



FOR MORE INFO, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:
giveit2goodwill.org/careersolutions

1985 Providence Pkwy.
Mt. Juliet, TN 37122
(615) 288-2389
mtjulietcs@givegw.org

Career Solutions
CHANGING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION, TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

Attention: Tennessee registrants!
Wilson County has been approved for it's own specialty license plate.

"WILSON COUNTY THE PLACE TO BE"

Specialty License Plate Information

The license plate is part of the unique identity of Wilson County and would proudly be displayed on vehicles in our county and state.



Sales to Benefit Wilson Rides, Inc.

Sales of the license plate will benefit our local non-profit Wilson Rides Inc., an organization who helps to preserve the quality of life and foster a connected community for older adults in Wilson County by providing safe transportation to local destinations.



Sign up now!

You can help make these license plates available in Wilson County by taking part in the pre-sale. **Plates will only be produced once 1,000 signatures and \$35 per plate are collected!** Plates will be mailed to the County Clerk, and you will be notified by mail by the Tennessee Department of Revenue, Vehicle Services Division when your specialty license plate is available. Usual license registrations fees apply, and your specialty plate fee of \$35 will have been pre-paid.



How to Register

To receive your specialty plates, please make a payment of *\$35 to Wilson Rides, Inc. To pay in person, drop your check off along with this form at the Wilson County Mayor's Office, 228 E. Main Street, Suite 104 in Lebanon. To register online, visit www.wilsonridesinc.org.

For more information, contact:

Gaye Lynn Wilson, Director of Wilson Rides, Inc.
gayelynn@wilsonridesinc.org
615-622-5557

Susan Shaw, Office of Wilson County Mayor
shawsu@wilsoncountyttn.gov
615-444-1383



Register here:

name

phone

email address

street address

city

zip code

county

*Please make payment of \$35 to Wilson Rides, Inc.
Mail check and registration form to Wilson Rides Inc,
1616 West Main, Suite 300, Lebanon TN 37087



Best Lunch Date Ever!



**Make A
Difference
Today!**



Volunteers Needed ASAP

Register:

www.mc-mealsonwheels.com/volunteer

or email: smcdaniel@mchra.com

Thank YOU for caring!



in remembrance of 9.11.2001

THE ANNUAL PATRIOT DAY OBSERVANCE

Friday, September 10th, 2021

at noon

located at the
Agricultural Pavilion
in Watertown
(near the railroad tracks)